

70. (Added) A method for providing connectivity to a foreign network for a user device, the method comprising:

intercepting messages transmitted over the network without regard to message destination addresses;

automatically determining network settings of the network based on addresses contained in the messages transmitted over the network; and

modifying messages transmitted by a user device based on the network settings of the network.

210
71. (Added) The method of claim 70 wherein the user device is configured to communicate over a home network having network settings incompatible with the network, the method further comprising:

automatically determining network settings of the user device by intercepting an Address Resolution Protocol (ARP) message transmitted by the user device having a destination address of a device on the home network and replying to the ARP message by associating a Media Access Control (MAC) address of a device on the network with the destination address of the device on the home network.

Remarks

The courtesies extended by Examiners Nguyen and Ngo during the interview are sincerely appreciated. As discussed during the interview, the present invention as disclosed and claimed provides a number of features which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art taken alone or in any permissible combination. Reconsideration and re-examination of the application in light of those discussions and the accompanying amendments is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's §102 rejections based on Egevang. Applicants disagree that the claimed features are explicitly or inherently disclosed in the reference relied upon. As such, Applicant's believe the rejections under §102 are improper inasmuch as the Examiner indicates the features are "explicit to one of ordinary skill in the

art" or "a designer choice." However, Applicants have amended the claims and added new claims in an attempt to advance the prosecution of this case.

Applicants believe this amendment addresses all the formal and substantive requirements for patentability including the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102, 103, and 112, and that this case is now in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

An additional fee of \$864.00 is believed to be due for payment of the three-month extension of time for a small entity and presentation of additional claims. This fee and any other fees or credits should be applied to Deposit Account 02-3978.

The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to discuss resolution of any outstanding issues necessary to place this case in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

JOEL E. SHORT et al.

By David S. Bir
DAVID S. BIR
Reg. No. 38,383
Attorney/Agent for Applicants

Date: November 4, 1999

BROOKS & KUSHMAN P.C.
1000 Town Center, 22nd Floor
Southfield, MI 48075
Phone: 248-358-4400
Fax: 248-358-3351